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Cedar American
Rail Holdings, Inc.

IC&E

April 23, 2008

Final Draft to SHPO

Ms. Catherine Glidden
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20043-0001

RE: *A LEVEL III CULTURAL RESOURCES EVALUATION OF THE PROPOSED DAKOTA, MINNESOTA & EASTERN RAILROAD CORPORATION'S POWDER RIVER BASIN EXPANSION PROJECT CORRIDOR, HURON YARD LOCALE, BEADLE COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA*

Dear Ms. Glidden:

Please find enclosed 1 copy of a final draft archaeological resources inventory and evaluation for the Powder River Basin Project (PRB Project) in South Dakota. This report was prepared by Augustana College and originally submitted to your office in September 2007. Your office submitted the report for distribution to the cooperating parties and Tribes in November 2007 and, after a thorough review period in which no comments were received, you directed us to print the final drafts for distribution by your office to the South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). We are therefore sending two copies to Mr. David Bibler at the Louis Berger Group for distribution to the SHPO.

According to Stipulation A.5 of the Programmatic Agreement, upon completion of the report review process, STB may allow construction to proceed in portions of the construction area determined to be negative for historic properties. Therefore, upon completion of the report review process, we request that STB approve those portions of the project corridor covered in this report which are found to contain no historic properties, subject to other permits and approvals as applicable. If STB and SHPO agree that no historic properties are situated within the Huron Yard Locale, we request that STB approve for construction that portion of the project corridor which extends from Mile Post 364.75 to Mile Post 372.5.

DM&E recognizes that as engineering planning progresses and ancillary facilities are confirmed, alterations to the corridor may be proposed that merit additional cultural resource inventory. If any such additional inventory is required, it will be conducted in accordance with the provisions for Addendum Reports as specified at Stipulation A.3.4 of the Programmatic Agreement.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or if I can assist in your distribution of the report. Please advise Michael Madson (mmadson@hdrinc.com) as to the SHPO comments as they become available. We recognize that the Programmatic Agreement stipulations provide the SHPO 60 days for review and concurrence regarding determinations of eligibility. We appreciate any effort your office can make to expedite that process and look forward to the SHPO's comments and finalizing the report and recommendations.

Sincerely,

Herb Jones
Director, Government Affairs
Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad

Cc: David Bibler, Louis Berger Group
Adrien Hannus, Archaeology Laboratory - Augustana College
Doug Jackson, HDR Engineering, Inc.
Michael Madson, HDR Engineering, Inc.